

In the Claims:

1-123. Canceled.

- ¹/~~124~~. (Currently amended) An isolated nucleic acid comprising:
- (a) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 387;
 - (b) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 387, lacking its associated signal peptide;
 - (c) ~~a nucleic acid sequence encoding the extracellular domain of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 387;~~
 - (d) the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 386;
 - (e)(d) the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 386;
- or
- (~~A~~)(e) the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 203132.

- ²/~~125~~. (Previously presented) The isolated nucleic acid of Claim ¹/~~124~~ comprising a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 387.

- ³/~~126~~. (Previously presented) The isolated nucleic acid of Claim ¹/~~124~~ comprising a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 387, lacking its associated signal peptide.

127-128. Canceled.

- ⁴/~~129~~. (Previously presented) The isolated nucleic acid of Claim ¹/~~124~~ comprising the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 386.

- ⁵/~~130~~. (Previously presented) The isolated nucleic acid of Claim ¹/~~124~~ comprising the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 386.

⁶
~~131~~. (Previously presented) The isolated nucleic acid of Claim ¹~~124~~ comprising the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 203132.

132-134. (Canceled)

⁸
~~135~~. (Previously presented) A vector comprising the nucleic acid of Claim ¹~~143~~ or ⁷~~124~~.

⁹
~~136~~. (Previously presented) The vector of Claim ⁸~~135~~, wherein said nucleic acid is operably linked to control sequences recognized by a host cell transformed with the vector.

¹⁰
~~137~~. (Previously presented) An isolated host cell comprising the vector of Claim ⁸~~135~~.

¹¹
~~138~~. (Previously presented) The host cell of Claim ¹⁰~~137~~, wherein said cell is a CHO cell, an *E. coli* or a yeast cell.

139-142. (Canceled)

⁷
~~143~~. (Currently amended) An isolated nucleic acid encoding a polypeptide having at least 99% sequence identity to:

- (a) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 387;
- (b) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 387, lacking its associated signal peptide;
- (c) ~~a amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 387;~~
- (d) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 386; or
- (e)(d) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 203132; wherein said encoded polypeptide induces chondrocyte redifferentiation.